

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229780

EXDIS-HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. ISRAELI VIEWS ON SYRIAN ROLE IN LEBANON

AN ISRAELI MFA OFFICIAL HAS TOLD EMBASSY TEL AVIV THAT SYRIA'S LONG TERM GOAL IN LEBANON MAY BE ACTIVE MILITARY INTERVENTION. THE OFFICIAL SAID:

--SYRIA IS PRESENTLY CONTENT WITH THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF SYRIAN OFFICIALS TO LEBANESE STABILITY.

--AS SHORT TERM PAYMENT FOR ITS DIPLOMATIC ASSISTANCE, SYRIA SEEKS LEBANESE SUPPORT ON INTRA-ARAB ISSUES.

--IN THE LONGER RUN, SYRIA WOULD LIKE TO SEE LEBANON PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE AS A CONFRONTATION STATE, ULTIMATELY LEADING TO THE STATIONING OF SYRIAN TROOPS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON.

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THE OFFICIAL ALSO NOTED THAT SUCH MILITARY INTERVENTION WAS PROBABLY NOT IMMINENT BOTH BECAUSE OF SYRIA'S RELUCTANCE TO GET INVOLVED WITH FINDING A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM AND BECAUSE OF SYRIAN MILITARY PREOCCUPATION ON "OTHER FRONTS." (CONFIDENTIAL) TEL AVIV 6095, 9/25.

2. UNGA

A. PUERTO RICO ISSUE LOSES STEAM

USUN REPORTS THAT CUBA IS UNLIKELY TO ATTEMPT TO INSCRIBE A PUERTO RICO ITEM ON THE UNGA AGENDA. PREDICTING THAT A VOTE ON A DAMAGING PUERTO RICO ISSUE WOULD GO ABOUT TWO TO ONE IN OUR FAVOR, THE MISSION ANTICIPATES THAT THE CUBANS WILL LIMIT THEMSELVES TO A PRO FORMA DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO UNDER SOME ITEM ALREADY ON THE AGENDA.

B. MAKARIOS VISIT

EMBASSY NICOSIA REPORTS THAT RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY MAKARIOS GIVE A GOOD INDICATION OF THE SUBJECTS HE IS LIKELY TO STRESS WHILE IN THE US. THE EMBASSY EXPECTS HIM TO:

--EMPHASIZE TURKEY'S AGGRESSION AGAINST CYPRUS, AND ITS FLOUTING OF UN PRINCIPLES AND RESOLUTIONS;

--CAPITALIZE ON DENKTASH'S UDI THREATS;

--STRESS PUBLIC RELATIONS THEMES OF HIGH VALUE IN GREEK CYPRUS, PARTICULARLY THE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS OF REFUGEES AND MISSING PERSONS.

MAKARIOS HAS PREPARED THE GREEK CYPRIOT PUBLIC FOR THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE UNGA DEBATE WOULD RESULT IN NO SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, AND WARNED THAT TURKEY WILL NOT CONFORM TO UN RESOLUTIONS UNLESS "PRACTICAL MEASURES" ARE TAKEN AGAINST IT. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 4504 AND (CONFIDENTIAL) NICOSIA 2871, 9/25.)

3. PORTUGAL
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A. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL US AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE

WITH THE BLESSING OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, COUNCIL MEMBERS GENERAL PINHO FRIERE AND MAJOR COSTA NEVES PROPOSED TO THE DATT THAT THE REMAINING 50,000 NOVA LISBOA REFUGEES BE AIRLIFTED TO WINDHOEK BY CONTRACT CARRIERS PROVIDED BY THE US, AND FROM WINDHOEK TO AIRBASES IN PORTUGAL VIA USAF

FLIGHTS. FRIERE ADDED THAT:

--THE GOP DOUBTS THE PRESENT EVACUATION CAN BE COMPLETED IN A POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE TIME.

--HE CONCEIVED THIS EMERGENCY PLAN TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF US RELUCTANCE TO PUT US MILITARY AIRCRAFT INTO ANGOLA.

HE STRESSED THE PROPOSED ACTION'S POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE AMONG MODERATE RC OFFICERS AS A DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY BETWEEN THE US AND THE GOP, AND IMPLIED THAT THE MISSION COULD HAVE A FAR REACHING IMPACT ON THE EVOLUTION OF PORTUGAL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US.

B. SOARES INTERVIEW WITH TIMES

IN A RECENT EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE LONDON TIMES, SOARES DID LITTLE TO REASSURE BRITISH PRIVATE INVESTORS IN PORTUGAL OR TO ENCOURAGE EITHER THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OR THE EC NINE TO SPEED UP PLANS FOR ECONOMIC AID AND ASSISTANCE. SOARES' MAIN POINTS WERE:

--SOCIAL DEMOCRACY IS NOT APPLICABLE TO PORTUGAL WHERE CAPITALISM HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN AUTHORITARIAN AND "PARASITICAL."

--LIKE THE FRENCH, SPANISH, AND ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTIES, THE PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS MUST COMPETE WITH A STRONG COMMUNIST PARTY FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE WORKING CLASS, AND THEREFORE HAVE TO COOPERATE WITH THE COMMUNISTS IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM SOCIETY.

--THE DANGER OF A RIGHT OR LEFT WING DICTATORSHIP HAS
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RECEDED BUT THE COMMUNISTS ARE STILL AGGRESSIVE AND ARE TRYING TO KEEP ONE FOOT IN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OTHER IN THE OPPOSITION. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 5660 (EXDIS), (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) LONDON 14826, 9/25.) KISSINGER

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